

## CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1        1.     A system for use in routing calls within a telephone network, comprising:
  - 2            a service control point (SCP) operative to receive a local number portability
  - 3            (LNP) query from a switch, where the LNP query is associated with a call
  - 4            from a subscriber to a first service provider;
  - 5            an intelligent traffic routing and control (INTRAC) unit operable to provide
  - 6            routing directions for the call;
  - 7            where the SCP is further operative to direct the LNP query to the intelligent traffic
  - 8            routing and control unit when the call is a data call and not when the call is
  - 9            a voice call.
- 1        2.     The system of claim 1, where the routing directions comprise a Local
- 2     Routing Number.
- 1        3.     The system of claim 1, wherein the routing directions direct the call to an
- 2     access server operated by the first service provider.
- 1        4.     The system of claim 3, wherein the access server is chosen based on a type
- 2     of service associated with the subscriber.

- 1        5.     The system of claim 4, wherein the type of service comprises X2.
- 1        6.     The system of claim 4, wherein the type of service comprises K56Flex.
- 1        7.     The system of claim 4, wherein the type of service comprises ISDN.
- 1        8.     The system of claim 1, wherein the the routing directions direct the call to  
2     a trunk group connecting an access server operated by the first service provider and the  
3     switch.
- 1        9.     The system of claim 1, wherein the the routing directions direct the call to  
2     an access server operated by a second service provider.
- 1        10.    A method of routing calls within a telephone network, comprising:  
2     receiving a local number portability (LNP) query from a switch, where the LNP  
3        query is associated with a call from a subscriber to a first service provider;  
4        directing the LNP query to an intelligent traffic routing and control (INTRAC)  
5        unit when the call is a data call and not when the call is a voice call; and  
6        providing routing directions for the call.

1           11.    The method of claim 10, where providing routing directions for the call  
2    further comprises:

3           providing routing directions which direct the call to an access server operated by  
4    the first service provider.

1           12.    The method of claim 10, where providing routing directions for the call  
2    further comprises:

3           providing routing directions which direct the call to a trunk group connecting the  
4    switch and an access server operated by the first service provider.

1           13.    The method of claim 10, further comprising:  
2    evaluating resources available at the first service provider.

1           14.    The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
2    identifying a preferred access server operated by the first service provider,  
3    responsive to evaluating resources available at the first service provider.

1        15. An apparatus comprising:  
2            a service package manager operative to receive a Local Number Portability (LNP)  
3                    query from a switch, the LNP query associated with a call from a  
4                    subscriber to a first service provider, the service package manager further  
5                    operative to determine a call type of the call;  
6            a intelligent traffic routing and control (INTRAC) unit operative to generate a  
7                    LNP response if the call type is a data call;  
8            a LNP processing unit operative to generate a LNP response the the call type is  
9                    not a data call.

1        16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the call type is determined by  
2            comparing a Called Party Address field in the LNP query with telephone numbers in a  
3            database.

1        17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the LNP response generated by the  
2            INTRAC unit contains the Local Routing Number of a preferred access server operated  
3            by the first service provider.

1        18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the INTRAC unit is a service package  
2            application.

1           19.    The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the LNP processing unit is a service  
2    package application.

1           20.    The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the LNP processing unit and the  
2    INTRAC unit share the same Sub-System Number and the same translation type.